availability of unallocated power in the ER is limited and allocated to needy States from time to time keeping in view power shortages, emergent/ seasonal requirements of various States. Further, the constituents of the ER claimed back their surrendered share in NTPC stations, which in turn has reduced the availability of power in ER for allocation to States outside ER. Thus additional allocation of power from the ER to Karnataka to offset the high cost of power generated by liquid fuel private projects was not considered practicable.

Shortfall of power during ensuing summer

3665. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the extent of power shortfall in the country is expected to grow hugely in the coming summer months when demand peaks;

(b) if so, whether Government is planning any steps to manage this shortfall and ensure uninterrupted supplies; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Energy shortage in the country during the summer months (April-July, 2005) is anticipated to be of the order of 4% of the total energy requirement of the country as compared to 6% during the same period last year.

(b) and (c) The following measures are being taken to augment availability of power in the country during ensuing summer months:

(i) Export of power from surplus regions to deficit regions.

(ii) Load mangement:-Imposition of statutory power cuts/restriction and load shedding by State Government/Power Utilities from time to time depending upon the availability of power.

(iii) Coordinated operation and maintenance of hydro/thermal/nuclear gas turbine power station in the regional power system to optimally utilize the existing generation capacity.

(iv) Installation of shunt capacitors to improve voltage profiles of regional grids.

(v) Import of coal to bridge the gap between demand and availability of domestic coal and consequently enhance generation from coal based power stations.